AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for receiving a multi-carrier signal, comprising the steps of:

detecting a presence of at least one impulse interference within the signal,

identifying one or more samples of said signal where a significant amount of the impulse noise caused by the at least one impulse interference is present,

selecting samples to be blanked,

blanking the selected samples to obtain a signal with blanking by applying a blanking window to said signal, wherein the blanking window is a non-rectangular window to provide smooth transitions at its ends, and

determining an estimate of the signal with blanking; wherein the selected samples comprise the samples identified to have impulse interference present and further comprise ~~at least one of the following:~~ a first predetermined number of samples preceding the identified samples [[;]] and a second predetermined number of samples following the identified samples.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the first predetermined number of samples is equal to the second predetermined number.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising: defining a blanking window having a length selected from a plurality of different predetermined lengths and applying the blanking window to the signal so that one or more samples within the blanking window are

blanked.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, wherein the number of blanking windows is one and the predetermined length of the window is equal to or greater than three samples in a time domain.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 3, wherein the selected length of the blanking window is the smallest one of the available lengths that is sufficient to encompass the selected samples.

6. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, wherein the selected blanking window is positioned in relation to the samples in a time domain so that at least one sample preceding the identified samples is within the blanking window.

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3, wherein a plurality of instances of the defined blanking window is applied in succession over the samples so that a first blanking window is positioned in relation to the samples in a time domain so that at least one sample preceding the identified samples is within the said first blanking window and at least one second blanking window is positioned so as to include at least one sample immediately succeeding the samples within the first blanking window, wherein all the identified samples are within at least one of the first and second blanking windows.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 7, wherein two or more blanking windows are positioned so as to overlap.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Original) A computer program comprising program instructions for causing an apparatus to perform the method of claim 1.

11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising: a receiver for receiving a multi-carrier signal;

and a processor; wherein the processor is configured to: detect the presence of impulse interference in said signal; identify one or more samples of said signal where a significant amount of impulse noise is present; select samples of said signal to be blanked, the selected samples including the identified samples and ~~at least one~~ further including a first predetermined number of samples preceding the identified samples[[;]] and a second predetermined number of samples following the identified samples; blank the selected samples to obtain a signal with blanking by applying a blanking window to said signal, wherein the blanking window is a non-rectangular window to provide smooth transitions at its ends; and determine an estimate of the signal with blanking.

12. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 11, configured to define a blanking window having a length selected from a plurality of different predetermined lengths and to apply the blanking window to the signal so that one or more samples within the blanking window are blanked.

13. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 12, configured to select the smallest one of the predetermined lengths that is sufficient to encompass the selected samples.

14. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 12, configured to position the selected blanking window in relation to the samples in a time domain so that at least one sample preceding the identified samples is within the blanking window.

15. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 12, configured to apply a plurality of instances of the defined blanking window in succession over the samples so that a first blanking window is positioned in relation to the samples in a time domain so that at least one sample preceding the identified samples is within the said first blanking window and at least one second blanking window is positioned so as to include at least one sample immediately succeeding the samples within the first blanking window, wherein all the identified samples are within at least one of the first and second blanking windows.

16. (Original) A communication system comprising a transmitter for transmitting a multi-carrier signal and an apparatus according to claim 10 for receiving said signal.

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for receiving a multi-carrier signal comprising: detection means for detecting the presence of impulse interference in the signal and identifying one or more samples of said signal where a significant amount of the impulse noise caused by the impulse interference is present; selection means for selecting samples to be blanked, blanking means for blanking the selected samples to obtain a signal with blanking by applying a blanking window to said signal, wherein the blanking window is a non-rectangular window to provide smooth transitions at its ends; and estimating means for determining an estimate of the signal with blanking; wherein the selection means are configured to select samples being identified to have impulse interference present and ~~at least one of the following:~~ further configured to select a first predetermined number of samples preceding the identified samples [[;]] and a second predetermined number of samples following the identified samples.

18. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the blanking means is configured to define a blanking window having a length selected from a plurality of different predetermined lengths and to apply the blanking window to the signal so that one or more samples within the blanking window are blanked.

19. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the blanking means is configured to select the smallest one of the predetermined lengths that is sufficient to encompass the selected samples.

20. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the blanking means is configured to position the selected blanking window in relation to the samples in a time domain so that at least one sample preceding the identified samples is within the blanking window.

21. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the blanking means is configured to apply a plurality of instances of the defined blanking window in succession over

the samples so that a first blanking window is positioned in relation to the samples in a time domain so that at least one sample preceding the identified samples is within the said first blanking window and at least one second blanking window is positioned so as to include at least one sample immediately succeeding the samples within the first blanking window, wherein all the identified samples are within at least one of the first and second blanking windows.

22. (Original) A communication system comprising a transmitter for transmitting a multi-carrier signal and an apparatus according to claim 17 for receiving said signal.

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said smooth transitions are linear transitions.

24. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said smooth transitions are cosine transitions.

25. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said smooth transitions are cosine transitions.

26. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said smooth transitions are ~~cosine transitions~~ linear transitions.

27. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said smooth transitions are ~~cosine transitions~~ linear transitions.

28. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said smooth transitions are cosine transitions.